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PETER PARKER, THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN

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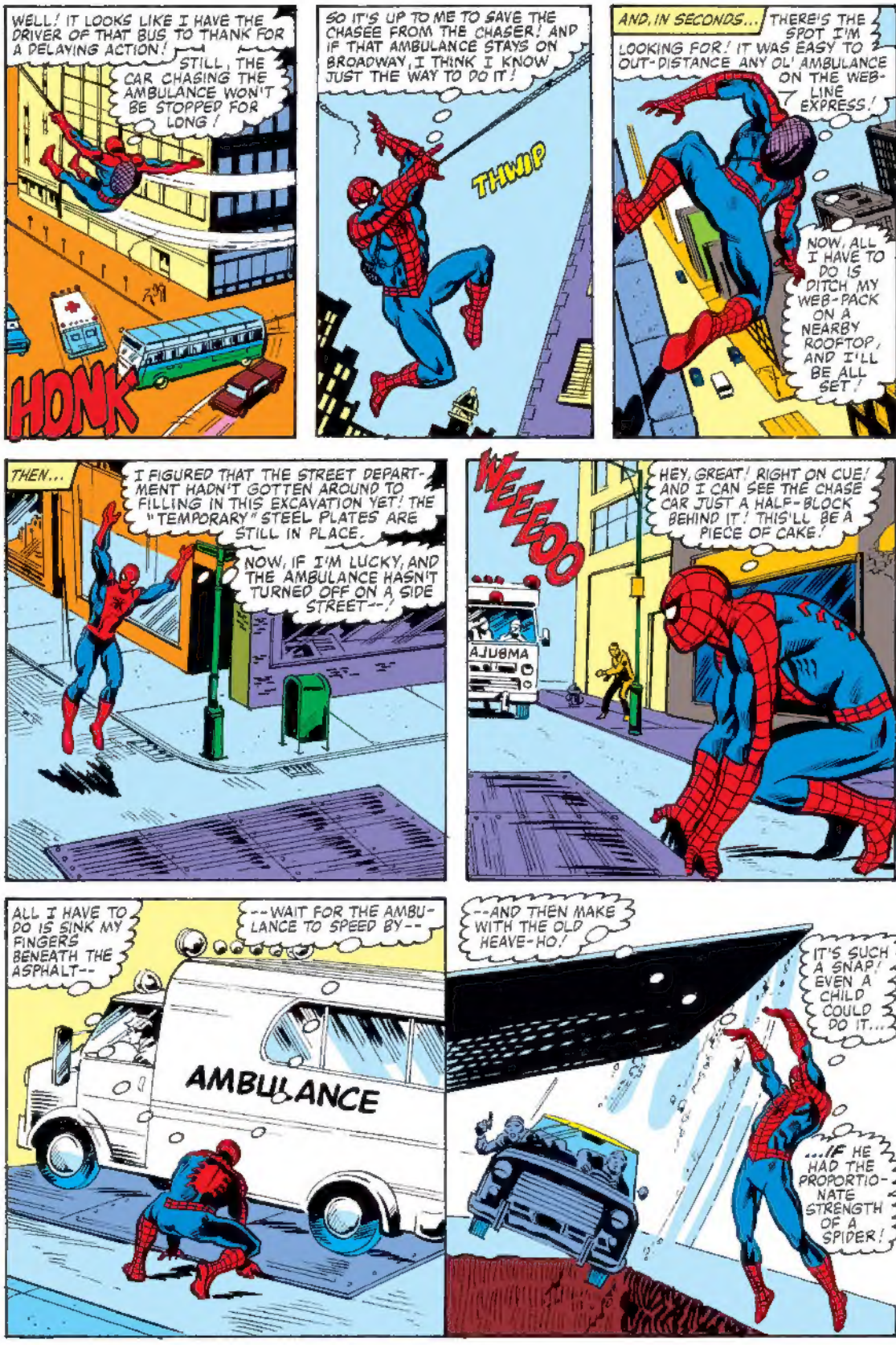
While attending a demonstration in radiology, student PETER PARKER was bitten by a spider which had accidentally been exposed to RADIOACTIVE RAYS. Through a miracle of science, Peter gained the arachnid's powers... and in effect, became a human spider...

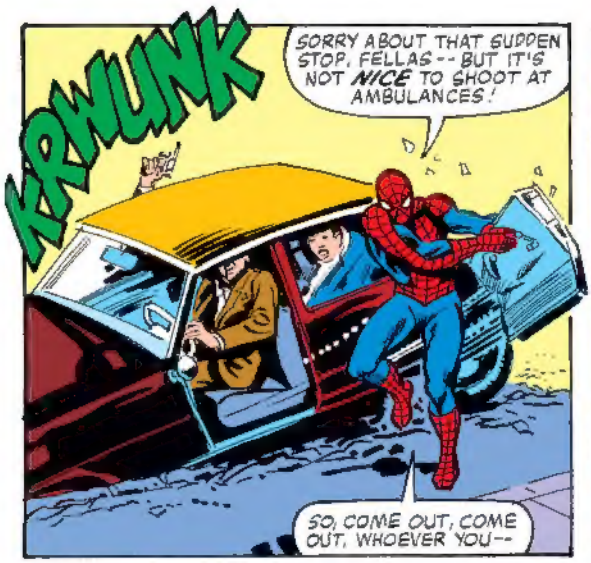
Stan Lee PRESENTS: THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN!®

TO SAVE THE SMUGGLER!

ROGER STERN - WORDS
MARIE SEVERIN - PLOT & PICTURES
JIM MOONEY - INKS
JIM NOVAK - LETTERS

DENNIS O'NEIL - SCRUTINY
JIM SHOOTER - MEDIC


WELL! IT LOOKS LIKE I HAVE THE DRIVER OF THAT BUS TO THANK FOR A DELAYING ACTION!
STILL, THE CAR CHASING THE AMBULANCE WON'T BE STOPPED FOR LONG!
HONK
SO IT'S UP TO ME TO SAVE THE CHASEE FROM THE CHASER! AND IF THAT AMBULANCE STAYS ON BROADWAY, I THINK I KNOW JUST THE WAY TO DO IT!
THWIP
AND, IN SECONDS...
THERE'S THE SPOT I'M LOOKING FOR! IT WAS EASY TO OUT-DISTANCE ANY OL' AMBULANCE ON THE WEB-LINE EXPRESS!
NOW, ALL I HAVE TO DO IS DITCH MY WEB-PACK ON A NEARBY ROOFTOP, AND I'LL BE ALL SET!
THEN...
I FIGURED THAT THE STREET DEPARTMENT HADN'T GOTTEN AROUND TO FILLING IN THIS EXCAVATION YET! THE "TEMPORARY" STEEL PLATES ARE STILL IN PLACE.
NOW, IF I'M LUCKY, AND THE AMBULANCE HASN'T TURNED OFF ON A SIDE STREET--!
WEEEOO
HEY, GREAT! RIGHT ON CUE! AND I CAN SEE THE CHASE CAR JUST A HALF-BLOCK BEHIND IT! THIS'LL BE A PIECE OF CAKE!
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS SINK MY FINGERS BENEATH THE ASPHALT--
--WAIT FOR THE AMBULANCE TO SPEED BY--
AMBULANCE
--AND THEN MAKE WITH THE OLD HEAVE-HO!
IT'S SUCH A SNAP! EVEN A CHILD COULD DO IT...
...IF HE HAD THE PROPORTIONATE STRENGTH OF A SPIDER!


KRWUNK
SORRY ABOUT THAT SUDDEN STOP, FELLAS -- BUT IT'S NOT NICE TO SHOOT AT AMBULANCES!
SO, COME OUT, COME OUT, WHOEVER YOU--

--ARE? LT. KEATING?! UH-OH, I HAVE A BAD FEELING ABOUT THIS!
YOU IDIOT! DON'T YOU KNOW ANY BETTER THAN TO INTERRUPT A POLICE CHASE?

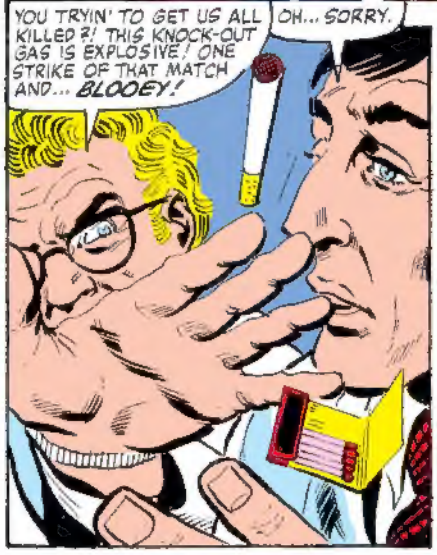
HEY, HOW WAS I TO KNOW? AREN'T YOU GUYS SUPPOSED TO USE SIRENS WHEN YOU USE UNMARKED CARS IN PURSUIT?
YEAH, BUT THIS ISN'T AN UNMARKED CAR...

...IT'S A PRIVATE VEHICLE WE COMMANDEERED, BUT THAT'S BESIDE THE POINT.
THAT AMBULANCE WAS STOLEN BY A GROUP OF MAGGIA* GUNMEN--AND THEY USED IT TO KIDNAP A KEY WITNESS!
GEE... I AM SORRY!
YOU'RE GONNA BE A LOT MORE THAN SORRY! McCLOSKEY! ARREST THIS MAN ON SUSPICION OF COMPLICITY IN THE KIDNAPPING!
*A NOTORIOUS INTERNATIONAL CRIME CARTEL. -- DENNY.

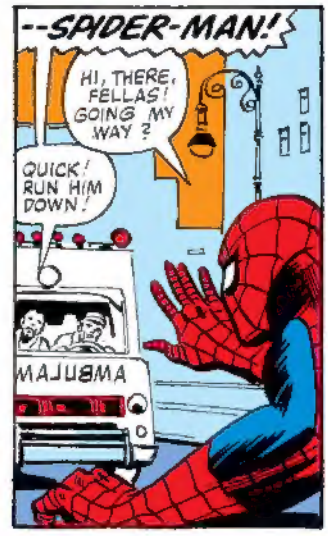
SURE THING, LIEUTENANT! OKAY, SPIDER-MAN, YOU HAVE THE RIGHT TO REMAIN...
...SILENT?
C'MON, HAVE YOU EVER KNOWN ME TO REMAIN SILENT? ANYWAY, I'M AFRAID I CAN'T LET YOU TAKE ME IN, GUYS!
AFTER ALL, IF I'M ARRESTED, I CAN'T CATCH THAT HIJACKED AMBULANCE FOR YOU! AND WE SPIDER-MEN ALWAYS RECTIFY OUR MISTAKES! ASK ANYONE!
THWIT
CRUNK
BAR

BOY, I REALLY STUCK MY FOOT IN IT THIS TIME! I CAN STILL HEAR THE AMBULANCE SIREN IN THE DISTANCE!
AT LEAST, I HOPE IT'S THE SAME SIREN!
HMM. I WONDER WHO THE BIG-DEAL WITNESS IS?

MEANWHILE, SEVERAL BLOCKS AWAY, IN THE BACK OF A STOLEN AMBULANCE...
I THINK IT'S STUPID! THIS SMUGGLER JOKER IS DANGEROUS! IF WE'RE GONNA KILL HIM ANYWAY, WHY DON'T WE JUST INCREASE THE FLOW OF THIS GAS AND ICE HIM NOW?
YOU KNOW WHY! HE WAS GONNA SQUEAL ABOUT OUR OPERATIONS. THE MAGGIA BIGSHOTS HAVE TO MAKE AN EXAMPLE OF HIM.
IT'S A PRESTIGE THING!
WELL, I STILL SAY ...HEY!


YOU TRYIN' TO GET US ALL KILLED?! THIS KNOCK-OUT GAS IS EXPLOSIVE! ONE STRIKE OF THAT MATCH AND... BLOOEY!
OH... SORRY.

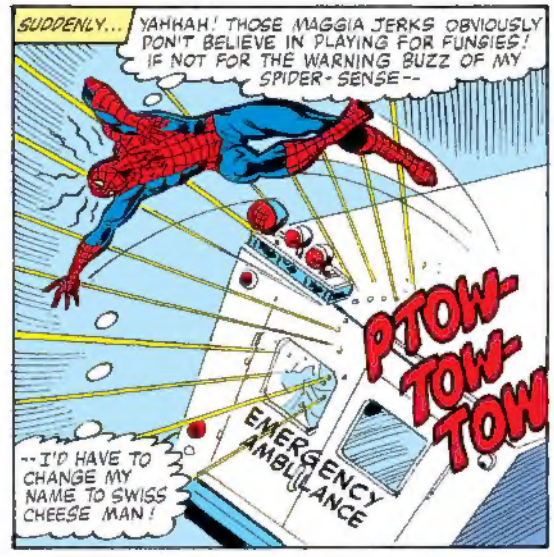
COULD YOU TWO BACK THERE HOLD IT DOWN? YOU'RE MAKING MORE RACKET THAN THE SIREN! LARRY AND I CAN HARDLY HEAR OURSELVES THINK!
STANLEY, LOOK OUT! AHEAD OF US... IN THE STREET... IT'S--

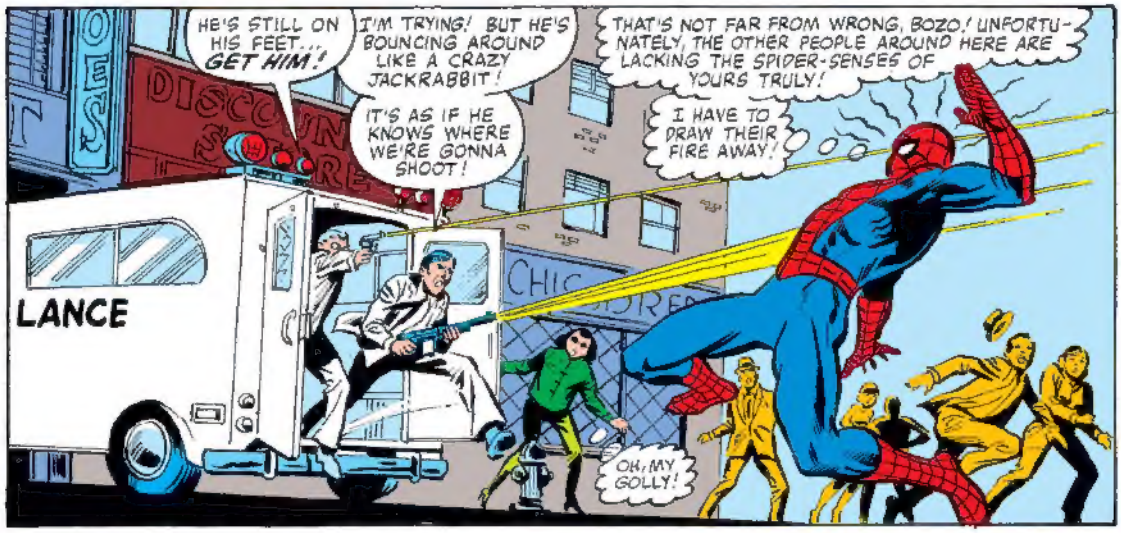

--SPIDER-MAN!
HI, THERE, FELLAS! GOING MY WAY?
QUICK! RUN HIM DOWN!
AMBULANCE

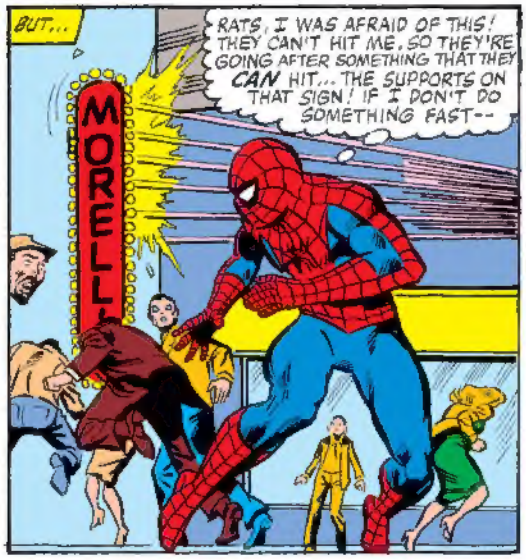
RUN HIM DOWN?! HOW? HE'S WEBBED UP THE BLASTED WINDSHIELD! I CAN'T SEE A THING!
LISTEN, BROTHER, WHO'S RUNNING THIS SHOW... ME OR YOU?
T-T-THEN, HIT THE BRAKES!

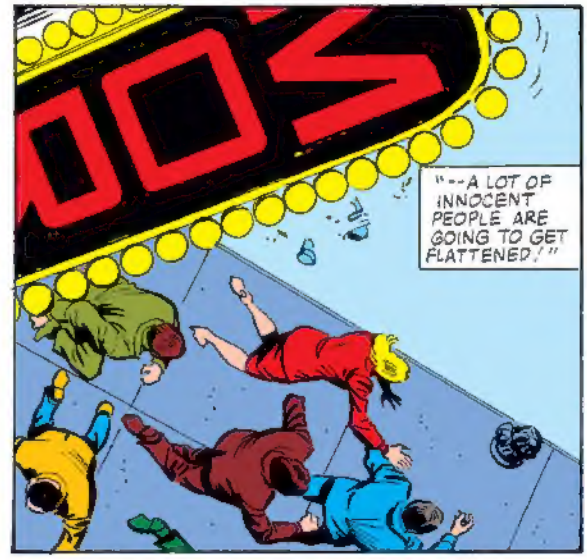
BUT THE MAGGIA DRIVER DOES INDEED HIT THE BRAKES, SKIDDING TO A STOP. AND THEN...
KNOCK, KNOCK!
EMERGENCY DANCE
CAN BILLY COME OUT AND PLAY?

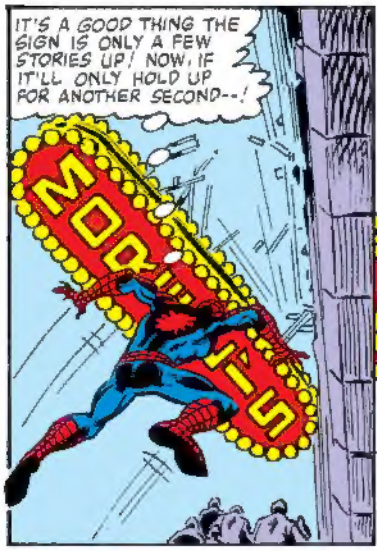
WELL, WHAT ARE YOU FOOLS WAITING FOR? HE'S NOT BULLETPROOF, YOU KNOW!
KEEP YOUR SHIRT ON! WE'RE LOADIN' AS FAST AS WE CAN!
AND THIS STARTED OUT TO BE SUCH AN EASY JOB!


SUDDENLY...
YAHHAH! THOSE MAGGIA JERKS OBVIOUSLY DON'T BELIEVE IN PLAYING FOR FUNGIES! IF NOT FOR THE WARNING BUZZ OF MY SPIDER-SENSE--
PTOW-TOW-TOW
EMERGENCY AMBULANCE
--I'D HAVE TO CHANGE MY NAME TO SWISS CHEESE MAN!

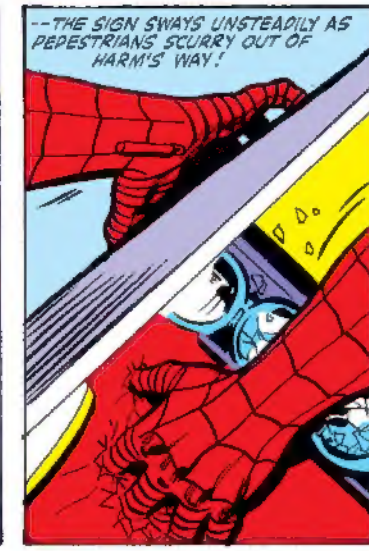

HE'S STILL ON HIS FEET... GET HIM!
I'M TRYING! BUT HE'S BOUNCING AROUND LIKE A CRAZY JACKRABBIT!
IT'S AS IF HE KNOWS WHERE WE'RE GONNA SHOOT!
THAT'S NOT FAR FROM WRONG, BOZO! UNFORTUNATELY, THE OTHER PEOPLE AROUND HERE ARE LACKING THE SPIDER-SENSES OF YOURS TRULY!
I HAVE TO DRAW THEIR FIRE AWAY!
OH, MY GOLLY!
LANCE

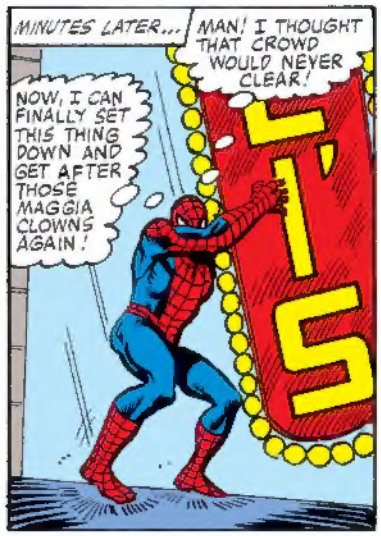

BUT...
RATS, I WAS AFRAID OF THIS! THEY CAN'T HIT ME, SO THEY'RE GOING AFTER SOMETHING THAT THEY CAN HIT... THE SUPPORTS ON THAT SIGN! IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING FAST--


"--A LOT OF INNOCENT PEOPLE ARE GOING TO GET FLATTENED!"

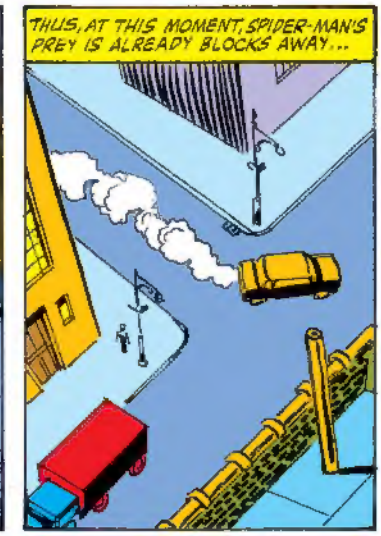

IT'S A GOOD THING THE SIGN IS ONLY A FEW STORIES UP! NOW, IF IT'LL ONLY HOLD UP FOR ANOTHER SECOND--!
MOD
ITS

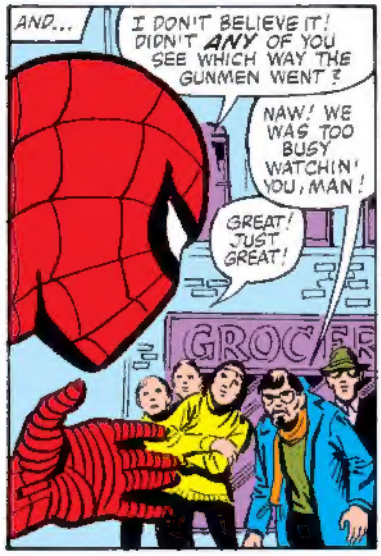
GOT IT! HANGING ON WON'T BE A PROBLEM-- THESE SIGNS ARE LOT LIGHTER THAN THEY LOOK, THE ONLY THING IS, IF I'M NOT CAREFUL, IT'S LIABLE TO BREAK APART IN MY HANDS!
SUPPORTED BY A SINGLE METAL STRUT AND THE AMAZING CLINGING ABILITY OF SPIDER-MAN--
ITS


--THE SIGN SWAYS UNSTEADILY AS PEDESTRIANS SCURRY OUT OF HARM'S WAY!

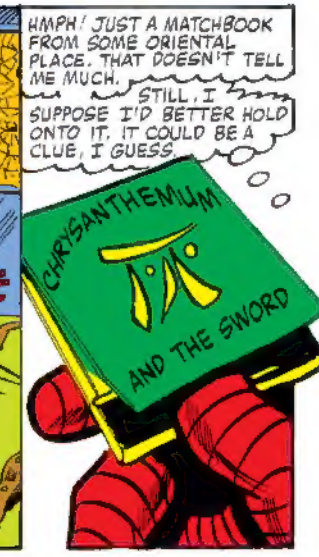

MINUTES LATER...
MAN! I THOUGHT THAT CROWD WOULD NEVER CLEAR!
NOW, I CAN FINALLY SET THIS THING DOWN AND GET AFTER THOSE MAGGIA CLOWNS AGAIN!
ITS

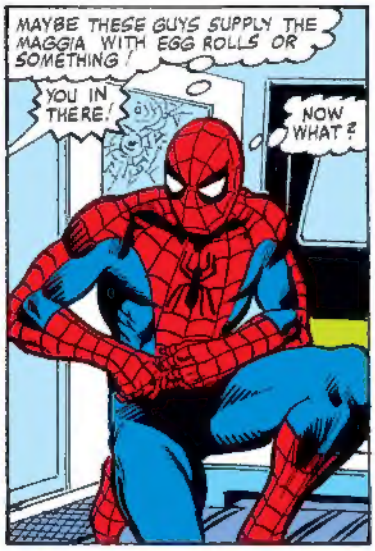
MEANWHILE...
C'MON, YOU TWO! DON'T BOTHER PICKING HIM OFF... THE SMUGGLER'S MORE IMPORTANT!
Y-YEAH! THERE'S A CAR AT THE END OF THIS ALLEY! IF WE CAN JUMP-START IT--!

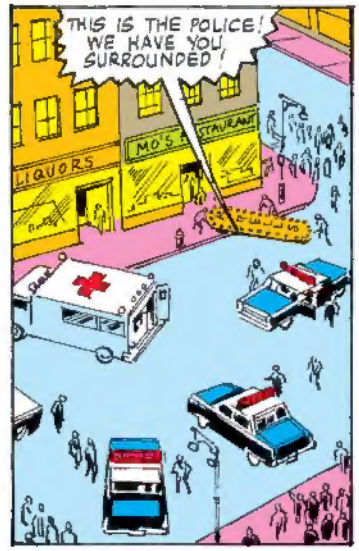

THUS, AT THIS MOMENT, SPIDER-MAN'S PREY IS ALREADY BLOCKS AWAY...


AND...
I DON'T BELIEVE IT! DIDN'T ANY OF YOU SEE WHICH WAY THE GUNMEN WENT?
NAW! WE WAS TOO BUSY WATCHIN' YOU, MAN!
GREAT! JUST GREAT!
GROCER

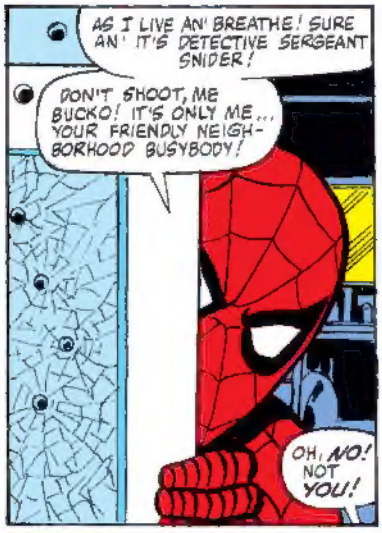
IT'S PROBABLY A WASTE OF TIME, BUT I MIGHT AS WELL CHECK OUT THE AMBULANCE. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I EXPECT TO FIND... I DOUBT THAT THEY LEFT A MAP TO THEIR HIDEOUT!
EH? WHAT'S THIS?

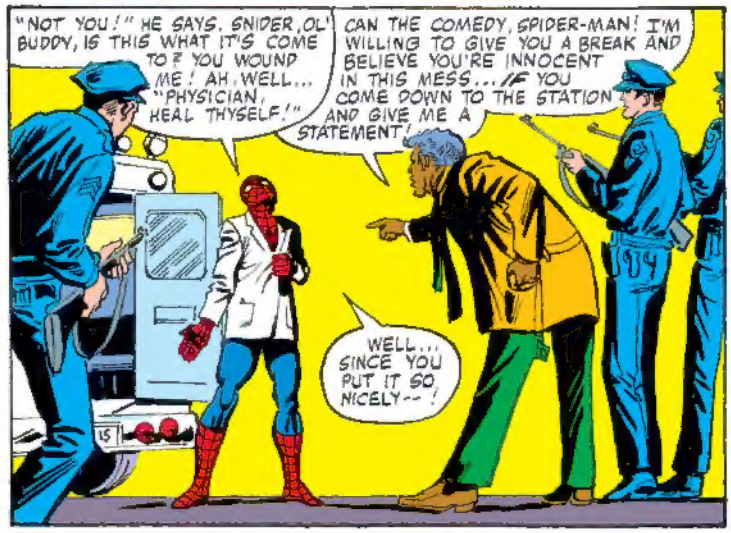

HMPH! JUST A MATCHBOOK FROM SOME ORIENTAL PLACE. THAT DOESN'T TELL ME MUCH.
STILL, I SUPPOSE I'D BETTER HOLD ONTO IT. IT COULD BE A CLUE, I GUESS.
CHRYSANTHEMUM
AND THE SWORD


MAYBE THESE GUYS SUPPLY THE MAGGIA WITH EGG ROLLS OR SOMETHING!
YOU IN THERE!
NOW WHAT?


THIS IS THE POLICE! WE HAVE YOU SURROUNDED!
LIQUORS
MO'S
RESTAURANT

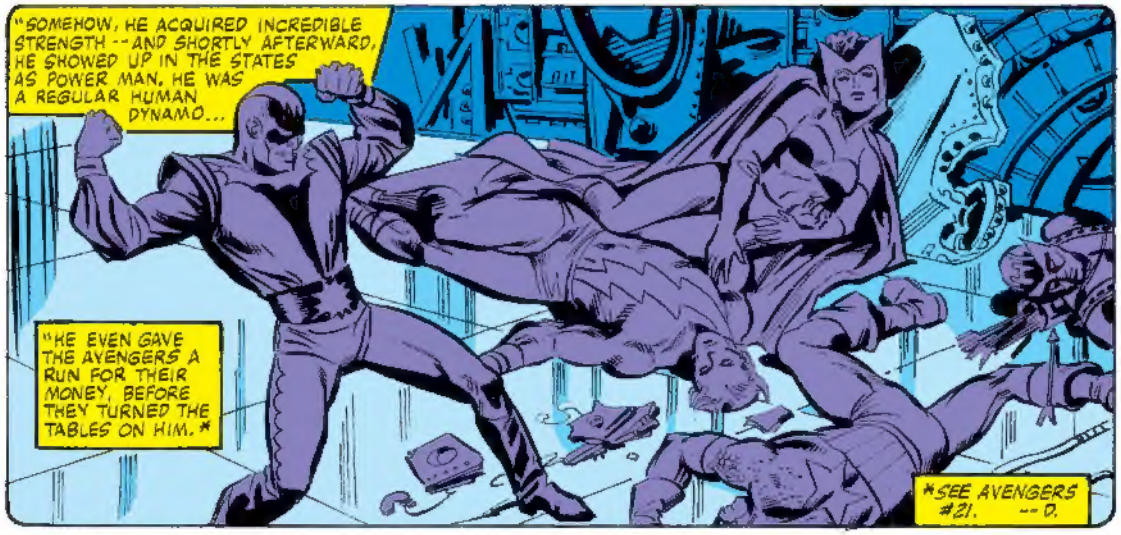
THERE IS NO CHANCE OF ESCAPE! COME OUT WITH YOUR HANDS UP!
POLICE DEPARTMENT


AS I LIVE AN' BREATHE! SURE AN' IT'S DETECTIVE SERGEANT SNIDER!
DON'T SHOOT, ME BUCKO! IT'S ONLY ME... YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD BUSYBODY!
OH, NO! NOT YOU!

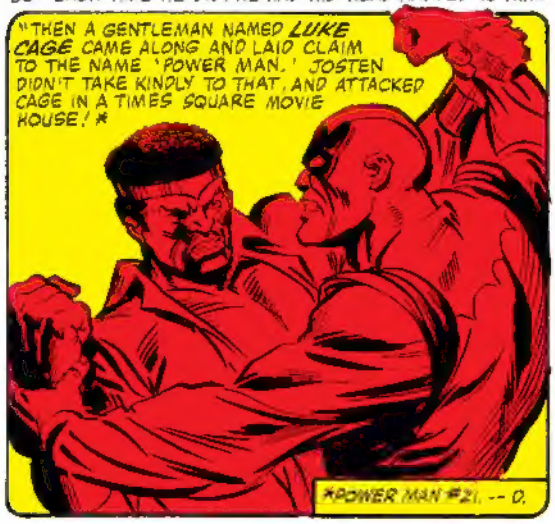

"NOT YOU!" HE SAYS, SNIDER, OL' BUDDY, IS THIS WHAT IT'S COME TO? YOU WOUND ME! AH, WELL... "PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF!"
CAN THE COMEDY, SPIDER-MAN! I'M WILLING TO GIVE YOU A BREAK AND BELIEVE YOU'RE INNOCENT IN THIS MESS... IF YOU COME DOWN TO THE STATION AND GIVE ME A STATEMENT!
WELL... SINCE YOU PUT IT SO NICELY--!

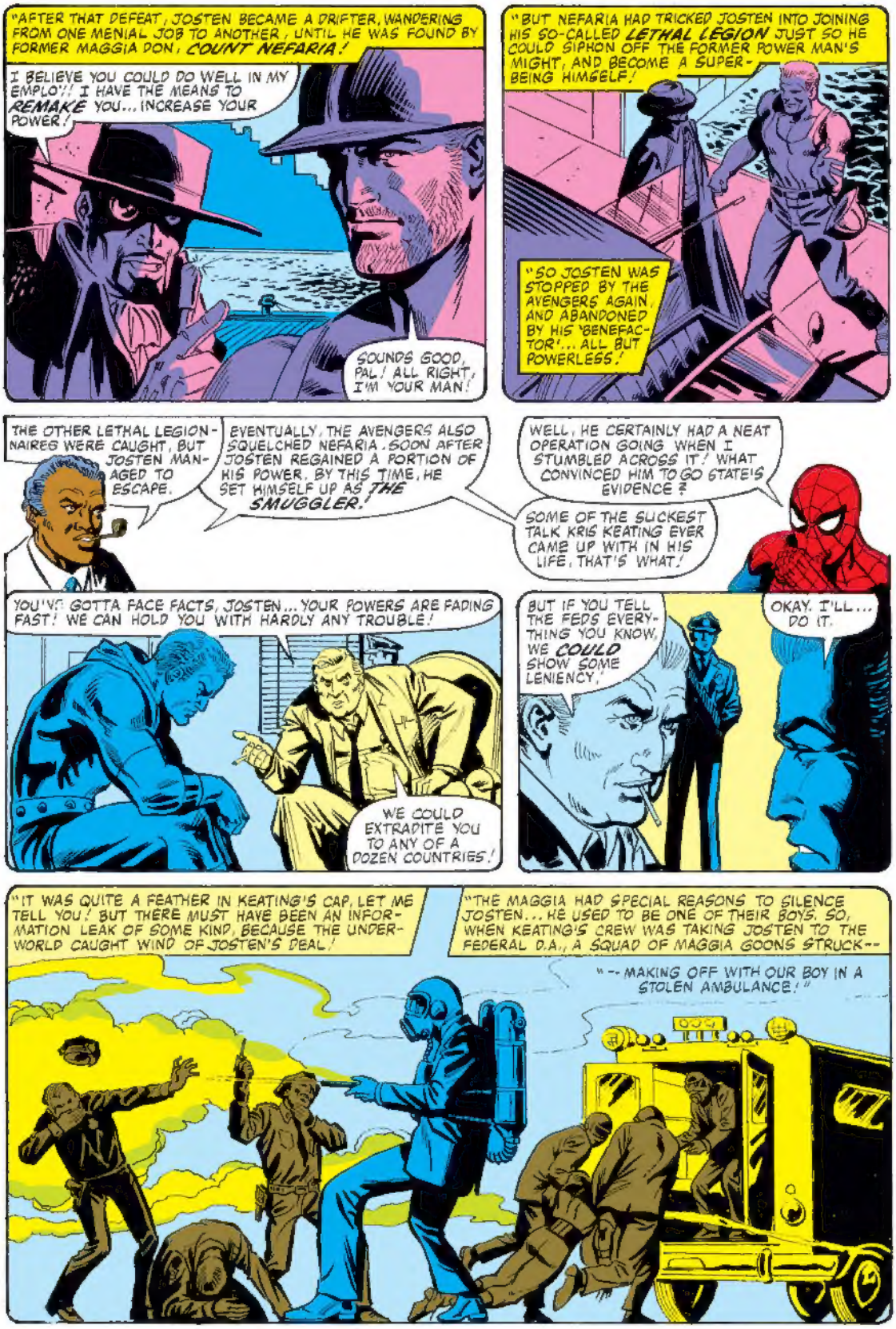
AND SO...
IMAGINE MY SURPRISE WHEN I YANKED OFF THE CAR DOOR AND SAW THAT NOSE OF KRIS KEATING'S!
MMPH! THAT COULD MEAN TROUBLE! KEATING PULLS A LOT OF WEIGHT WITH THE COMMISIONER! BUT I...
BUT YOU DON'T LIKE HIM ANY MORE THAN I DO, RIGHT?

LET'S JUST SAY I DISAGREE WITH SOME OF HIS S.W.A.T. TEAM PROCEDURES... AND LET IT GO AT THAT!
KEATING SEEMED PARTICULARLY MIFFED OVER LOSING HIS WITNESS. WAS IT ANYONE I KNOW?
YOU MIGHT SAY THAT. HOP DOWN HERE, AND I'LL SHOW YOU!



"IT WASN'T THE ONLY TIME HE FOUGHT THEM, OF COURSE. BUT EACH TIME HE DID, HE HAD HIS HEAD HANDED TO HIM.

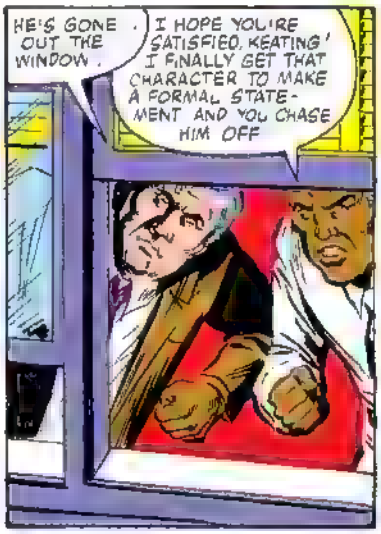



"AFTER THAT DEFEAT, JOSTEN BECAME A DRIFTER, WANDERING FROM ONE MENIAL JOB TO ANOTHER, UNTIL HE WAS FOUND BY FORMER MAGGIA DON, COUNT NEFARIA!
I BELIEVE YOU COULD DO WELL IN MY EMPLO'!! I HAVE THE MEANS TO REMAKE YOU... INCREASE YOUR POWER!
SOUNDS GOOD, PAL! ALL RIGHT, I'M YOUR MAN!
"BUT NEFARIA HAD TRICKED JOSTEN INTO JOINING HIS SO-CALLED LETHAL LEGION JUST SO HE COULD SIPHON OFF THE FORMER POWER MAN'S MIGHT, AND BECOME A SUPER-BEING HIMSELF!
"SO JOSTEN WAS STOPPED BY THE AVENGERS AGAIN, AND ABANDONED BY HIS 'BENEFACTOR'... ALL BUT POWERLESS!
THE OTHER LETHAL LEGIONNAIRES WERE CAUGHT, BUT JOSTEN MANAGED TO ESCAPE.
EVENTUALLY, THE AVENGERS ALSO SQUELCHED NEFARIA. SOON AFTER JOSTEN REGAINED A PORTION OF HIS POWER. BY THIS TIME, HE SET HIMSELF UP AS THE SMUGGLER!
WELL, HE CERTAINLY HAD A NEAT OPERATION GOING WHEN I STUMBLED ACROSS IT! WHAT CONVINCED HIM TO GO STATE'S EVIDENCE?
SOME OF THE SUCKEST TALK KRIS KEATING EVER CAME UP WITH IN HIS LIFE, THAT'S WHAT!
YOU'VE GOTTA FACE FACTS, JOSTEN... YOUR POWERS ARE FADING FAST! WE CAN HOLD YOU WITH HARDLY ANY TROUBLE!
WE COULD EXTRADITE YOU TO ANY OF A DOZEN COUNTRIES!
BUT IF YOU TELL THE FEDS EVERYTHING YOU KNOW, WE COULD SHOW SOME LENIENCY!
OKAY. I'LL... DO IT.
"IT WAS QUITE A FEATHER IN KEATING'S CAP, LET ME TELL YOU! BUT THERE MUST HAVE BEEN AN INFORMATION LEAK OF SOME KIND, BECAUSE THE UNDERWORLD CAUGHT WIND OF JOSTEN'S DEAL!
"THE MAGGIA HAD SPECIAL REASONS TO SILENCE JOSTEN... HE USED TO BE ONE OF THEIR BOYS. SO, WHEN KEATING'S CREW WAS TAKING JOSTEN TO THE FEDERAL D.A., A SQUAD OF MAGGIA GOONS STRUCK--
"--MAKING OFF WITH OUR BOY IN A STOLEN AMBULANCE!"

BOY, NO WONDER KEATING WAS STEAMED
KEATING IS A LOT MORE THAN STEAMED.
OBOY
I WANT THIS MENACE ARRESTED, SNIDER!
TAKE IT EASY, LIEUTENANT! THE MAN IS GIVING ME A STATEMENT!

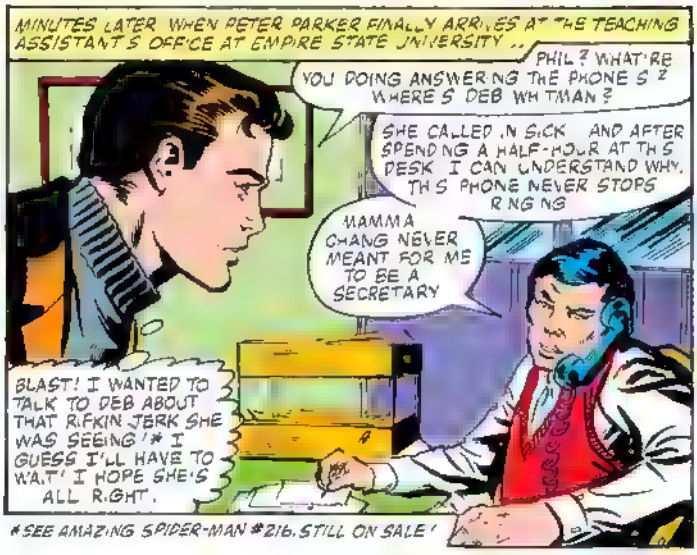
A STATEMENT?! HE OUGHTTA BE BEHIND BARS..! DO YOU KNOW WHAT THIS PUNK DID TO ME?!
I KNOW AND YOU SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO DRIVE IN PURSUIT WITHOUT A FLASHING LIGHT AND A SIREN!
OH BUT I FORGET. YOU S.W.A.T. BOYS DON'T LET A LITTLE THING LIKE REGULATIONS GET IN YOUR WAY!

NOW SEE HERE SNIDER--!
NO, YOU SEE HERE. YOU MAY OUTRANK ME, BUT THIS IS MY PRECINCT AND MY WITNESS! IF YOU WANT TO QUESTION HIM, YOU CAN WAIT!
EH?
WHY DON'T WE DO THIS SOME OTHER TIME, SNIDER?


HE'S GONE OUT THE WINDOW.
I HOPE YOU'RE SATISFIED, KEATING! I FINALLY GET THAT CHARACTER TO MAKE A FORMAL STATEMENT AND YOU CHASE HIM OFF

SECONDS LATER, ROOFTOPS AWAY...
I HATED TO LEAVE SNIDER IN A LURCH LIKE THAT, BUT I'VE HAD ALL I CAN TAKE OF KRIS KEATING FOR ONE DAY! I'D RATHER SPEND A WEEK IN AN ELEVATOR WITH J. JONAH JAMESON!
BESIDES PETER PARKER IS REALLY LATE FOR CLASSES!

SHORTLY AFTER RETRIEVING HIS WEB-PACK...
SOMETIMES I FEEL LIKE I SPEND HALF MY TIME CHANGING CLOTHES. GUYS LIKE SUB-MARINER REALLY HAVE IT EASY ...ALL HE EVER WEARS IS SWIM TRUNKS.

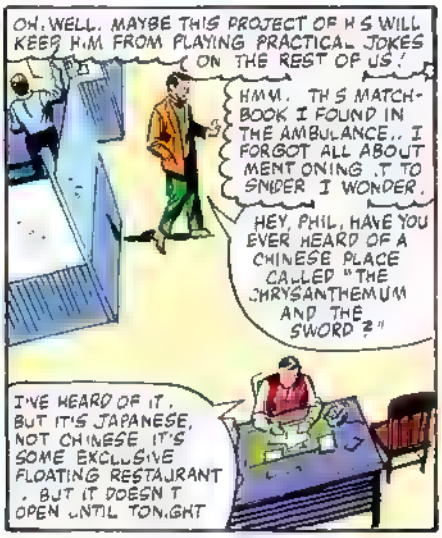

MINUTES LATER WHEN PETER PARKER FINALLY ARRIVES AT THE TEACHING ASSISTANT'S OFFICE AT EMPIRE STATE UNIVERSITY...
PHIL? WHAT'RE YOU DOING ANSWERING THE PHONE? WHERE'S DEB WHITMAN?
SHE CALLED IN SICK AND AFTER SPENDING A HALF-HOUR AT THIS DESK I CAN UNDERSTAND WHY. THIS PHONE NEVER STOPS RINGING
MAMMA CHANG NEVER MEANT FOR ME TO BE A SECRETARY
BLAST! I WANTED TO TALK TO DEB ABOUT THAT RIFKIN JERK SHE WAS SEEING!* I GUESS I'LL HAVE TO WAIT! I HOPE SHE'S ALL RIGHT.
*SEE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #216, STILL ON SALE!

WELL, IF IT ISN'T THE LATE PETER PARKER! DR. SLOAN'S BEEN ASKING ABOUT YOU. I TOLD HIM YOU WEREN'T HERE... AS USUAL.
THANKS A HEAP, MARCY! I DON'T SUPPOSE IT OCCURRED TO YOU TO COVER FOR ME?

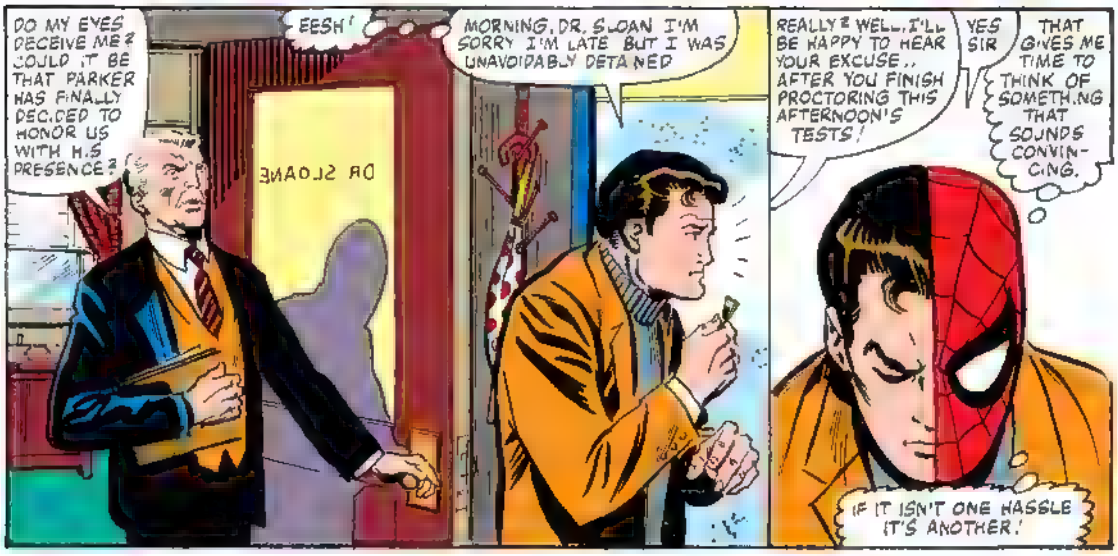
WHY SHOULD I? WOULD YOU COVER FOR ME?
YEAH PROBABLY. WHAT'S WITH THE TURBAN?
THIS HAPPENS TO BE THE START OF A NEW FASHION... NOT THAT YOU'D KNOW ANYTHING ABOUT THAT!

I WISH I KNEW WHAT WAS WRONG WITH THAT LADY. SHE HAS A PERMANENT CHIP ON HER SHOULDER.
A TURBAN, EH? THE PLOT THICKENS!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT, STEVE?
STEP INTO MY CUBICLE, HERR PARKER, AND YOU'LL SEE!

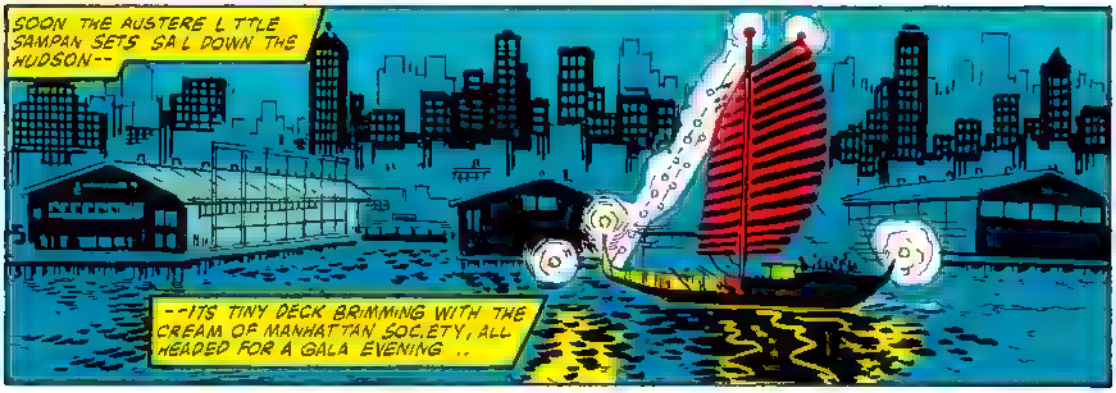
OBSERVE -- THE INFAMOUS STEVE HOPKINS TALLY SHEET!
FOR THE PAST MONTH, MARCY KANE'S WORN 12 DIFFERENT SCARVES ...AND NOW, A TURBAN!
I'VE KNOWN MARCY SINCE MY FRESHMEN YEAR, AND SHE NEVER COVERED HER GOLDEN LOCKS BEFORE! SOMETHING'S UP!

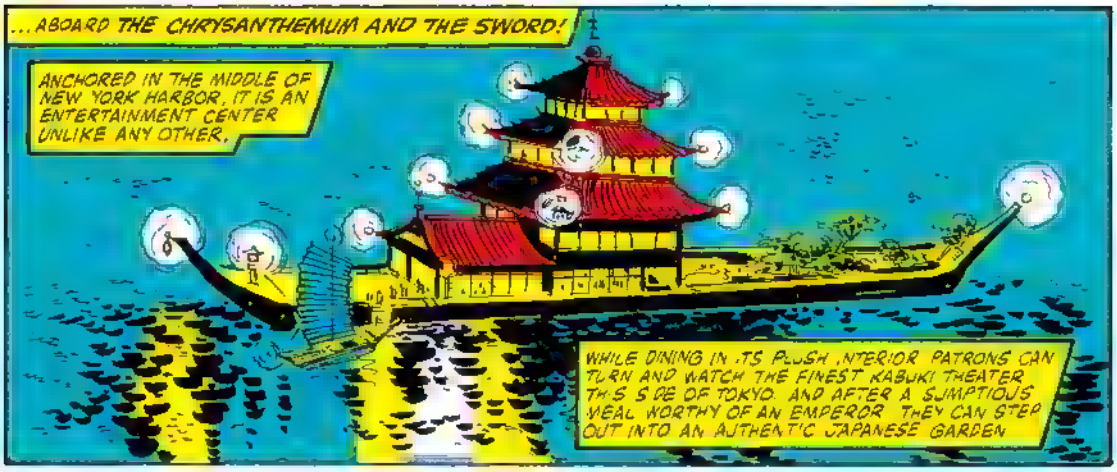

OH, WELL. MAYBE THIS PROJECT OF HIS WILL KEEP HIM FROM PLAYING PRACTICAL JOKES ON THE REST OF US!
HMM. THIS MATCHBOOK I FOUND IN THE AMBULANCE.. I FORGOT ALL ABOUT MENTIONING IT TO SNIDER. I WONDER.
HEY, PHIL, HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A CHINESE PLACE CALLED "THE CHRYSANTHEMUM AND THE SWORD"?
I'VE HEARD OF IT, BUT IT'S JAPANESE, NOT CHINESE. IT'S SOME EXCLUSIVE FLOATING RESTAURANT. BUT IT DOESN'T OPEN UNTIL TONIGHT

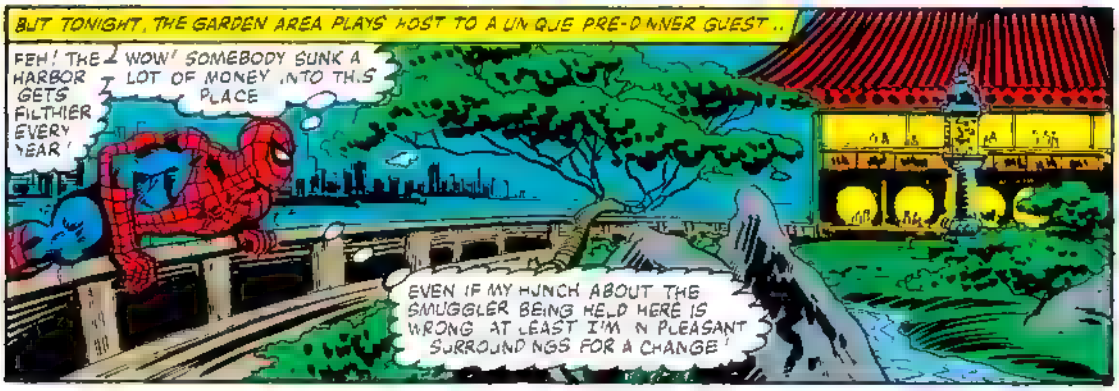
DOESN'T OPEN UNTIL TONIGHT EH? THINGS ARE STARTING TO FALL INTO PLACE. I'D BETTER CHECK THIS OUT!


DO MY EYES DECEIVE ME? COULD IT BE THAT PARKER HAS FINALLY DECIDED TO HONOR US WITH HIS PRESENCE?
EESH!
DR. SLOANE
MORNING, DR. SLOAN! I'M SORRY I'M LATE BUT I WAS UNAVOIDABLY DETAINED
REALLY? WELL, I'LL BE HAPPY TO HEAR YOUR EXCUSE.. AFTER YOU FINISH PROCTORING THIS AFTERNOON'S TESTS!
YES SIR
THAT GIVES ME TIME TO THINK OF SOMETHING THAT SOUNDS CONVINCING.
IF IT ISN'T ONE HASSLE IT'S ANOTHER!

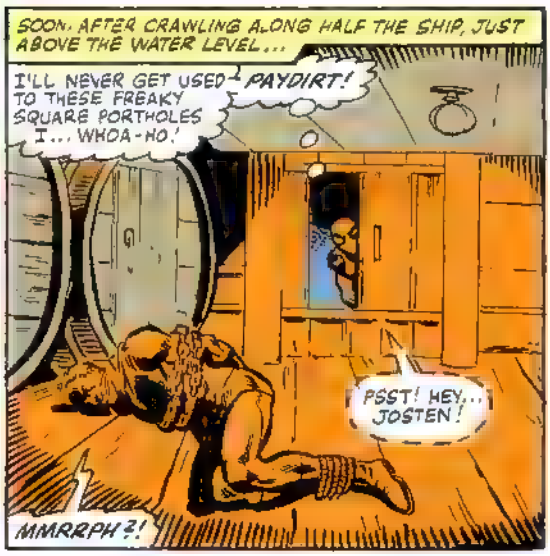
THAT EVENING AT PIER 14 ON THE HUDSON RIVER...
OH, ROD. A FLOATING JAPANESE RESTAURANT ... WHAT A CHIC IDEA!
BUT JAMES, ISN'T IT AWFULLY SMALL?
HAH-HA! THIS ISN'T THE RESTAURANT, LUV! THIS IS MERE TRANSPORTATION!


SOON THE AUSTERE LITTLE SAMPAN SETS SAIL DOWN THE HUDSON--
--ITS TINY DECK BRIMMING WITH THE CREAM OF MANHATTAN SOCIETY, ALL HEADED FOR A GALA EVENING ..


...ABOARD THE CHRYSANTHEMUM AND THE SWORD!
ANCHORED IN THE MIDDLE OF NEW YORK HARBOR, IT IS AN ENTERTAINMENT CENTER UNLIKE ANY OTHER.
WHILE DINING IN ITS PLUSH INTERIOR PATRONS CAN TURN AND WATCH THE FINEST KABUKI THEATER THIS SIDE OF TOKYO. AND AFTER A SUMPTIOUS MEAL WORTHY OF AN EMPEROR THEY CAN STEP OUT INTO AN AUTHENTIC JAPANESE GARDEN

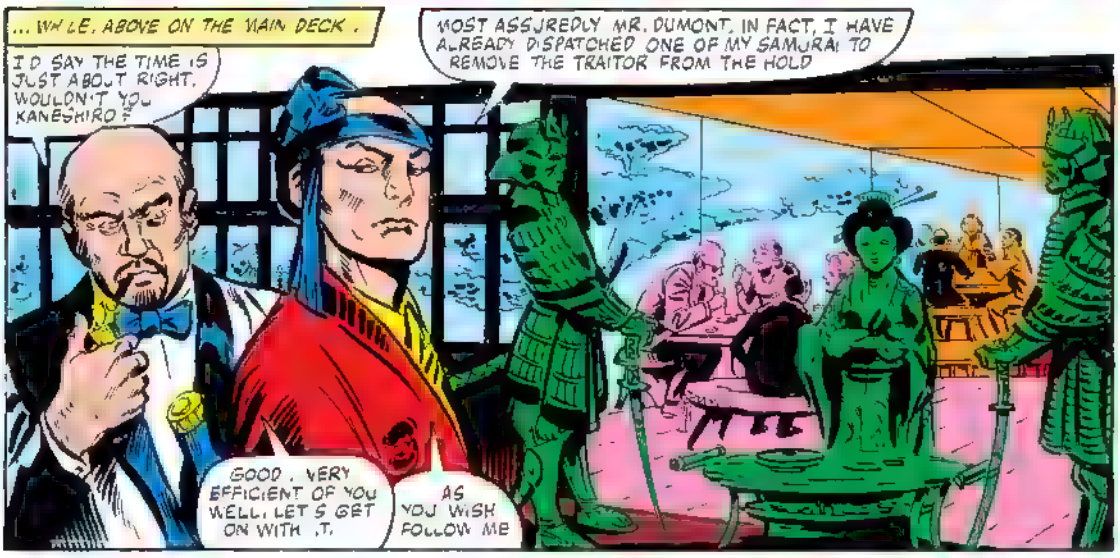

BUT TONIGHT, THE GARDEN AREA PLAYS HOST TO A UNIQUE PRE-DINNER GUEST ..
FEH! THE HARBOR GETS FILTHIER EVERY YEAR!
WOW! SOMEBODY SUNK A LOT OF MONEY INTO THIS PLACE
EVEN IF MY HUNCH ABOUT THE SMUGGLER BEING HELD HERE IS WRONG AT LEAST I'M IN PLEASANT SURROUNDINGS FOR A CHANGE!

LEAPING ONTO THE SHIP'S UPPER DECKS, SPIDER-MAN BEGINS SEARCHING...
INTERESTING SHOW! TOO BAD I CAN'T STICK AROUND AND SOAK UP SOME CULTURE, BUT I STILL HAVE TO CHECK THINGS OUT BELOW DECKS!


SOON, AFTER CRAWLING ALONG HALF THE SHIP, JUST ABOVE THE WATER LEVEL...
I'LL NEVER GET USED TO THESE FREAKY SQUARE PORTHOLES I... WHOA-HO!
PAYDIRT!
PSST! HEY... JOSTEN!
MMRRPH?!

SHH! KEEP IT DOWN! I KNOW YOU WON'T BELIEVE THIS, BUT I'M ACTUALLY HERE TO HELP YOU!
YNNGH?
YEAH! NOW HERE'S MY PLAN...

BUT, EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN REASSURES THE GROGGY SMUGGLER, A PORTAL AT THE FAR END OF THE CRAMPED HOLD SLIDES OPEN AND...


...WHILE, ABOVE ON THE MAIN DECK.
I'D SAY THE TIME IS JUST ABOUT RIGHT, WOULDN'T YOU KANESHIRO?
MOST ASSUREDLY MR. DUMONT. IN FACT, I HAVE ALREADY DISPATCHED ONE OF MY SAMURAI TO REMOVE THE TRAITOR FROM THE HOLD
GOOD. VERY EFFICIENT OF YOU. WELL, LET'S GET ON WITH IT.
AS YOU WISH. FOLLOW ME

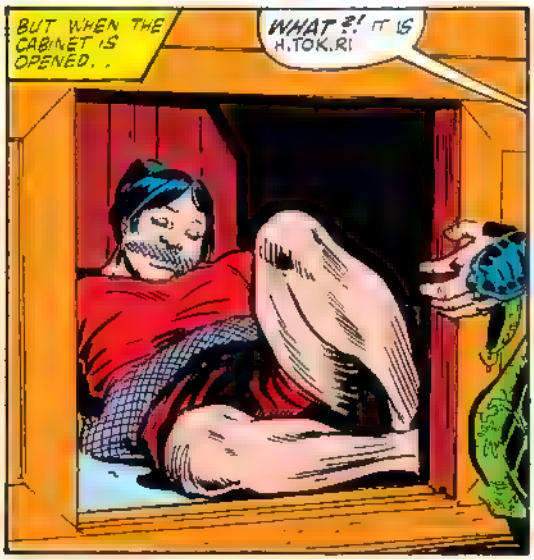
I THINK THE MAGGIA CH EFTAINS WILL BE VERY PLEASED WITH MY REPORT, KANE-SHIRO. I LIKE THE LOOKS OF YOUR OPERATION. THIS MAKES AN EXCELLENT FRONT FOR US
THAT WAS OUR INTENT, WAS IT NOT?

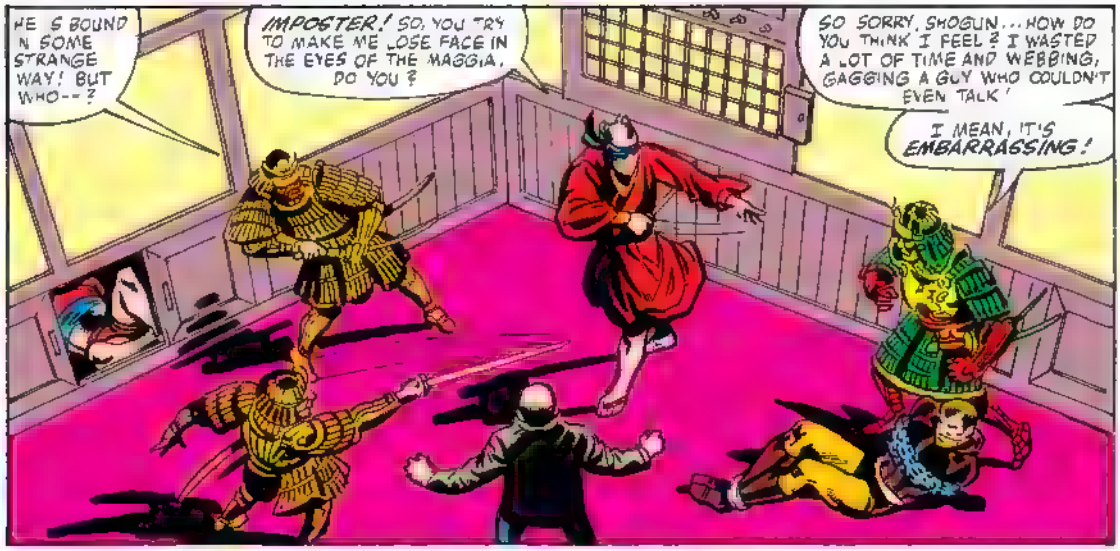
TH S IS HITOK.RI, MR DUMONT.. ONE OF MY BEST MEN AND UNLIKE THE TRAITOR JOSTEN THERE IS LITTLE CHANCE OF HIM EVER BETRAYING US. HE S, YOU SEE MUTE.
IS THAT SO?
TOO BAD YOU AREN'T MUTE JOSTEN!

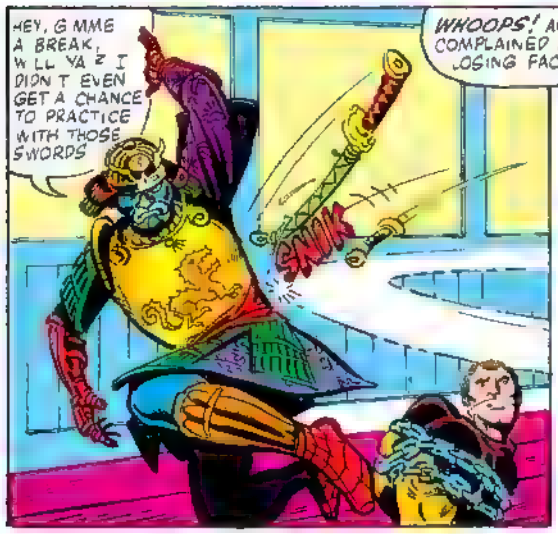
THE MAGGIA DOESN'T LIKE FORMER EMPLOYEES TALKING TO FEDERAL AUTHORITIES . ESPECIALLY WHEN THEY KNOW AS MUCH AS YOU DO ABOUT OUR OVERSEAS CONNECTIONS.
IT SHOULD CONSIDERABLY STRENGTHEN OUR DOMESTIC OPERATIONS WHEN GANGLAND LEARNS THAT WE'VE KILLED THE FORMER POWER MAN!

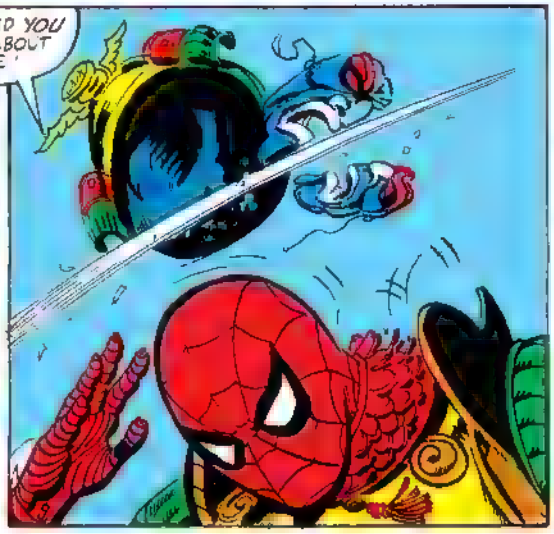
POWER MAN... HAH! WHERE'S YOUR POWER NOW? YOU'RE GETTING WEAKER WITH EACH PASSING MINUTE. WE COULD SHOOT YOU. BUT THAT WOULD BE TOO NOISY... TOO MESSY.
OUR ASSOCIATE MR KANESHIRO, HAS A MUCH BETTER PLAN, DON'T YOU, KANESHIRO?
SMEK

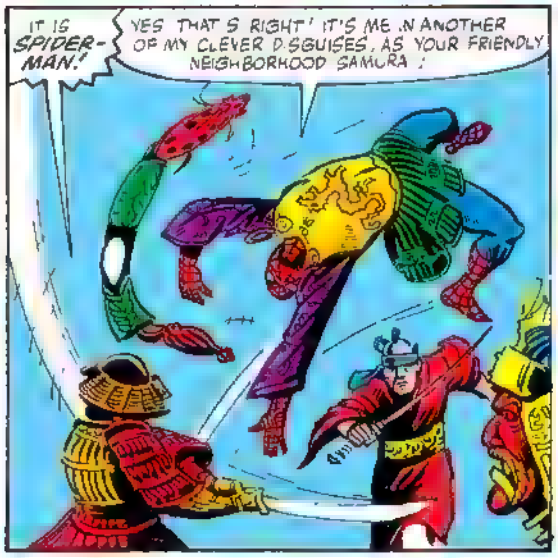
INDEED DEATH BY DROWNING IS MOST EFFECTIVE. ONIHASHI, GET THE WEIGHTS FROM THE STORAGE CABINET
WEIGHTS?


BUT WHEN THE CABINET IS OPENED..
WHAT?! IT IS HITOK.RI


HE S BOUND N SOME STRANGE WAY! BUT WHO--?
IMPOSTER! SO, YOU TRY TO MAKE ME LOSE FACE IN THE EYES OF THE MAGGIA, DO YOU?
SO SORRY, SHOGUN... HOW DO YOU THINK I FEEL? I WASTED A LOT OF TIME AND WEBBING, GAGGING A GUY WHO COULDN'T EVEN TALK!
I MEAN, IT'S EMBARRASSING!


HEY, G MME A BREAK, W LL YA? I DION T EVEN GET A CHANCE TO PRACTICE WITH THOSE SWORDS
SNIK

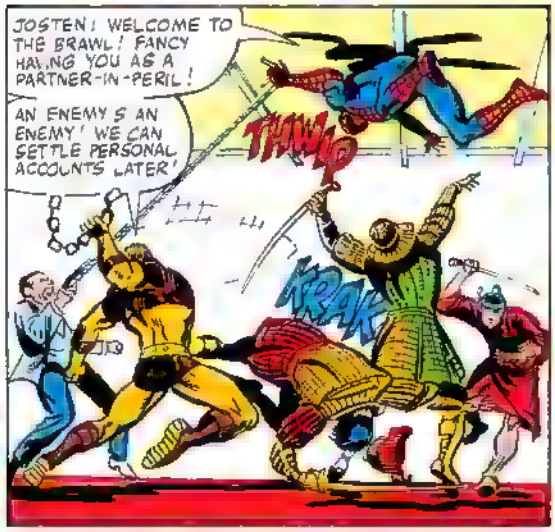

WHOOPS! AND YOU COMPLAINED ABOUT LOSING FACE!


IT IS SPIDER-MAN!
YES THAT S RIGHT! IT'S ME N ANOTHER OF MY CLEVER D SGUISES, AS YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD SAMURA!

AND NOW FOR MY NEXT MPRES S ON
GYPSY ROSE LEE A DRUM ROLL, PLEASE!
CALL YOUR BOYS BACK, KANESHIRO I'LL PICK HIM OFF!
NO, IT IS A MATTER OF HONOR, NOW!

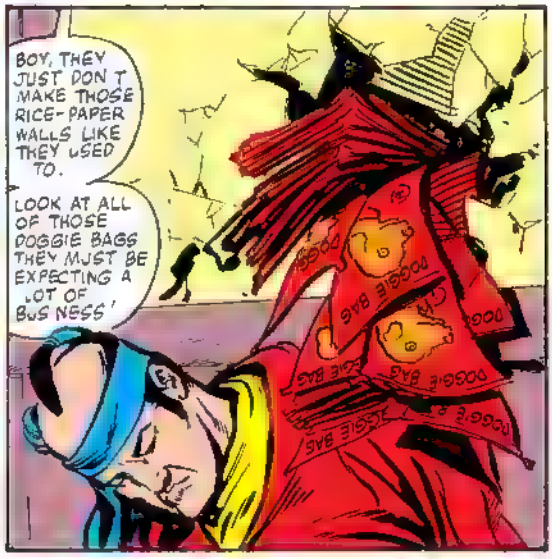
BUT, AS THE WARRIORS CLOSE IN ON SPIDER-MAN
THAT WALL-CRAWLING FREAK IS FIGHTING TO SAVE MY LIFE! THE LEAST I CAN DO IS GIVE HIM A HAND!
SNAP
UNGH! I...DID IT! IT WAS A STRAIN BUT I GOT ONE HAND FREE!

AARGH! MONTHS AGO I COULD'VE RIPPED THIS WHOLE BOAT IN TWO--
--BUT WITH MY POWER FADING, IT TAKES EVERYTHING I'VE GOT JUST TO... SNAP... THESE.. CHAINS!
KER-
-RACK

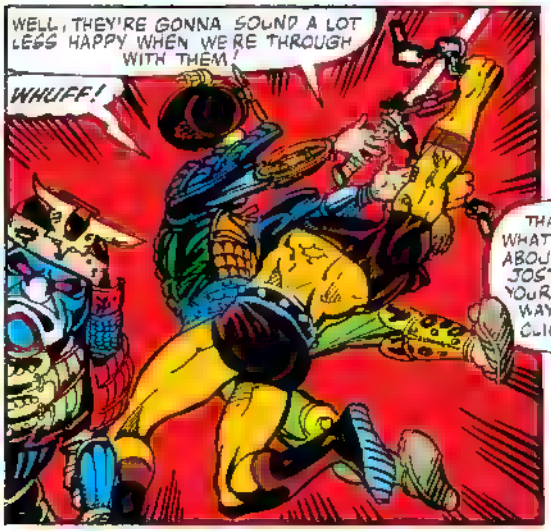

JOSTEN! WELCOME TO THE BRAWL! FANCY HAVING YOU AS A PARTNER-IN-PERIL!
AN ENEMY'S AN ENEMY! WE CAN SETTLE PERSONAL ACCOUNTS LATER!
THWIP
KRAK

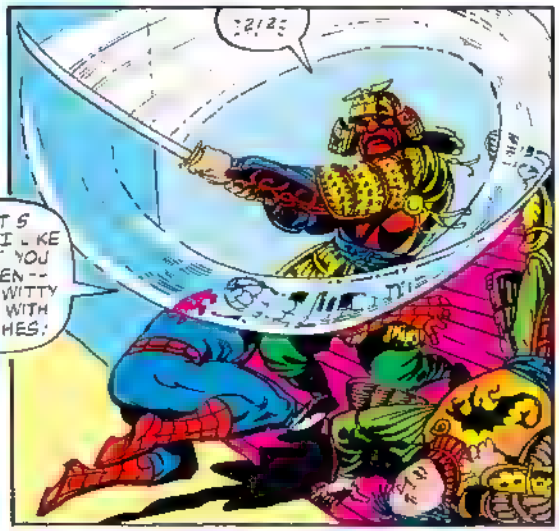
WHY, THAT LOUSY-- HE GUMMED UP MY PIECE! I CAN'T FIRE IT! I-I CAN'T EVEN LET GO OF IT
DON'T SWEAT IT DUMONT IT'LL WEAR OFF--
--IN AN HOUR OR TWO!
WHUNK

OH AND I'M NOT FORGETTING YOU, MR. KANESHIRO! THIS SHOULD KEEP YOU OUT OF MY HAIR FOR A WHILE!
WAAK
SAYONARA.


BOY, THEY JUST DON'T MAKE THOSE RICE-PAPER WALLS LIKE THEY USED TO.
LOOK AT ALL OF THOSE DOGGIE BAGS THEY MUST BE EXPECTING A LOT OF BUSINESS!
DOGGIE BAG

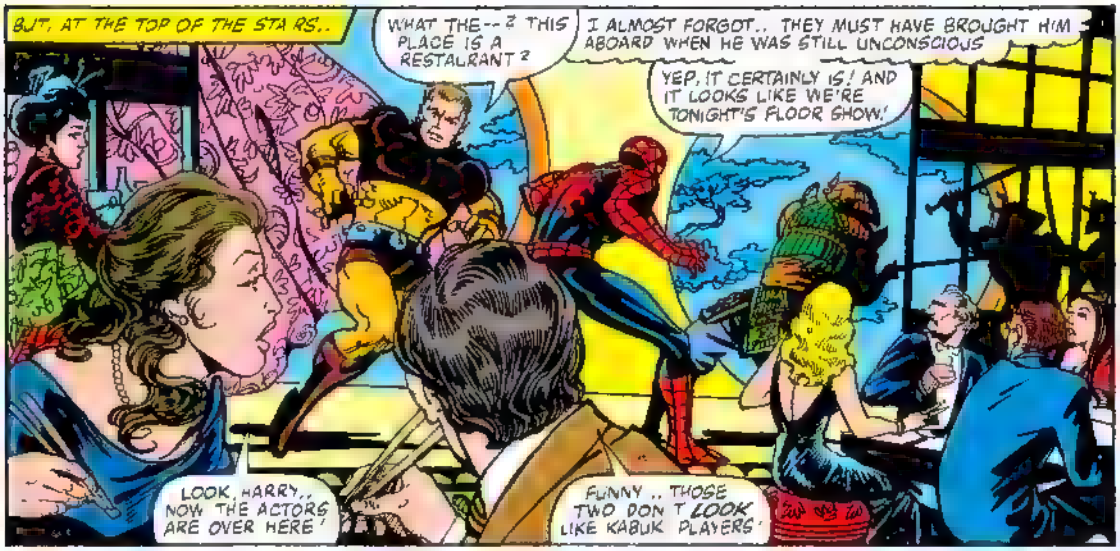
ガ・ガ・ガ・
ビッ
SORRY. I DON'T UNDERSTAND MUCH JAPANESE
ME NEITHER BUT I KNOW A THREAT WHEN I HEAR ONE!
THEY DON'T SOUND TOO HAPPY, DO THEY?

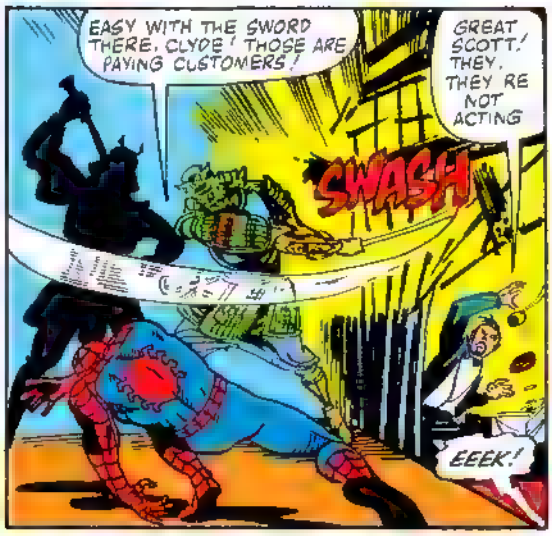

WELL, THEY'RE GONNA SOUND A LOT LESS HAPPY WHEN WE'RE THROUGH WITH THEM!
WHUFF!


THAT'S WHAT I LIKE ABOUT YOU JOSTEN -- YOUR WITTY WAY WITH CLICHES!

YOU'RE CRAZY! YOU KNOW THAT?
NO WAY THOSE FAR EASTERN BUTCHERS ARE GOING TO LAY A BLADE ON MY LITTLE WEBBED NOGGIN
KRAK

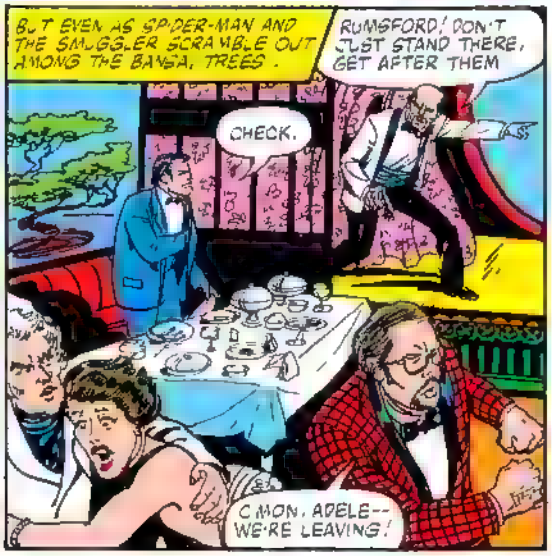
WELL, I'M FOR SETTING OUT OF HERE
I'M WITH YOU.
HERE, DUMONT -- YOU LOOK LIKE YOU COULD USE A PLAYMATE
OOF!

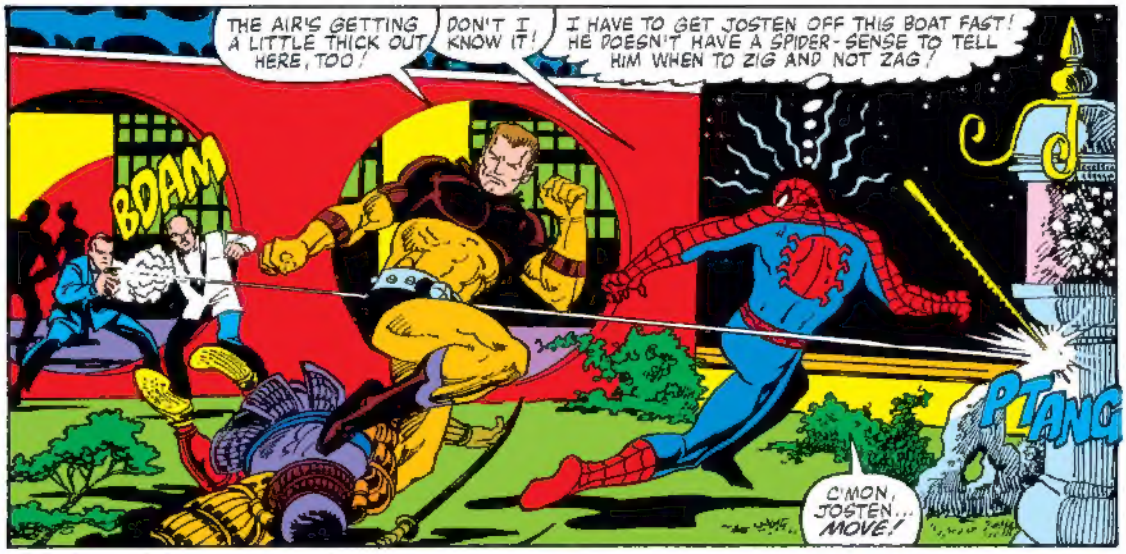

BUT, AT THE TOP OF THE STA RS..
WHAT THE--? THIS PLACE IS A RESTAURANT?
I ALMOST FORGOT.. THEY MUST HAVE BROUGHT HIM ABOARD WHEN HE WAS STILL UNCONSCIOUS
YEP, IT CERTAINLY IS! AND IT LOOKS LIKE WE'RE TONIGHT'S FLOOR SHOW!
LOOK, HARRY.. NOW THE ACTORS ARE OVER HERE!
FUNNY .. THOSE TWO DON T LOOK LIKE KABUK PLAYERS!


EASY WITH THE SWORD THERE, CLYDE! THOSE ARE PAYING CUSTOMERS!
GREAT SCOTT! THEY, THEY RE NOT ACTING
SWASH
EEEK!

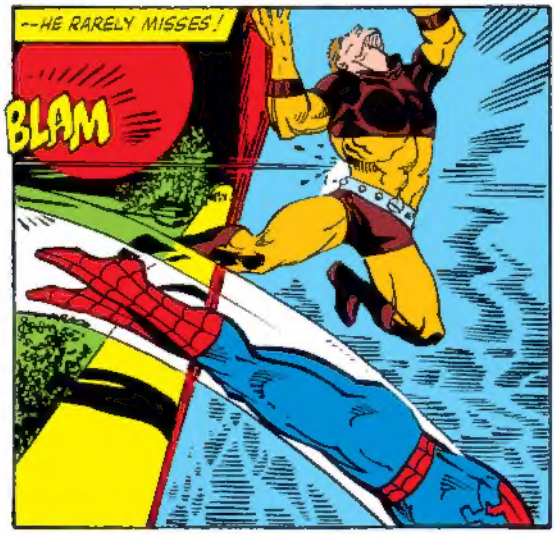
OH GREAT! I HAVE A RESTAURANT FULL OF PANICKY SOCIALITES IN ONE D RECTION A RAPIDLY WEAKENING SMUGGLER BEH ND ME AND THESE TOSHIRO M FUNE LOOKALIKES AHEAD OF ME!
THAT LEAVES ONE WAY OUT!
HEY JOSTEN... CAN YOU SWIM?

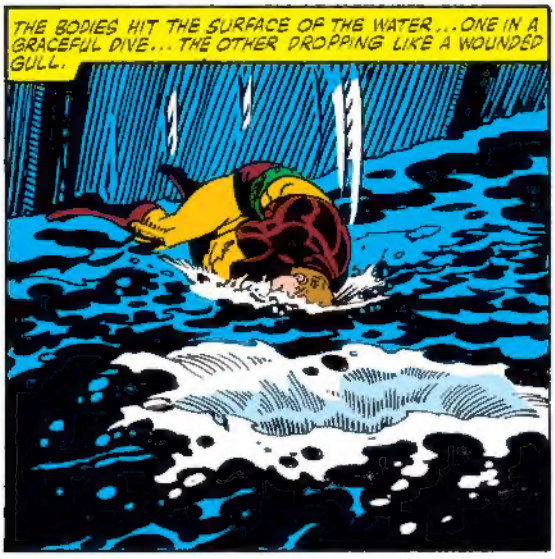
YEAH WHY?
DON T ASK. JUST HEAD FOR THE ROCK GARDEN AND PREPARE TO GET WET

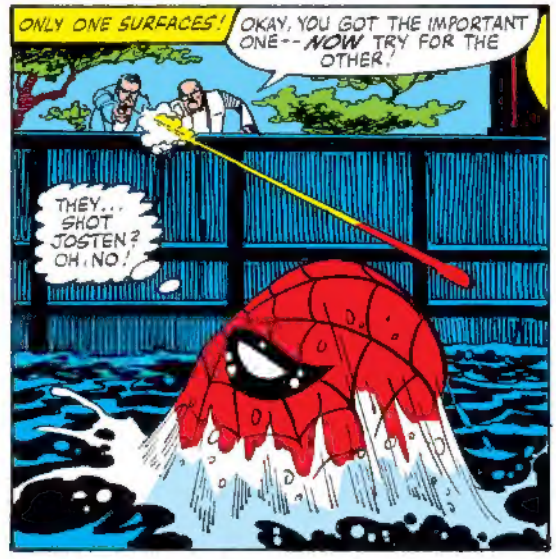

BUT EVEN AS SPIDER-MAN AND THE SMUGGLER SCRAMBLE OUT AMONG THE BANSA, TREES.
RUMSFORD! DON'T JUST STAND THERE, GET AFTER THEM
CHECK.
C MON, ADELE-- WE'RE LEAVING!


THE AIR'S GETTING A LITTLE THICK OUT HERE, TOO!
DON'T I KNOW IT!
I HAVE TO GET JOSTEN OFF THIS BOAT FAST! HE DOESN'T HAVE A SPIDER-SENSE TO TELL HIM WHEN TO ZIG AND NOT ZAG!
BDAM
PTANG
C'MON, JOSTEN... MOVE!

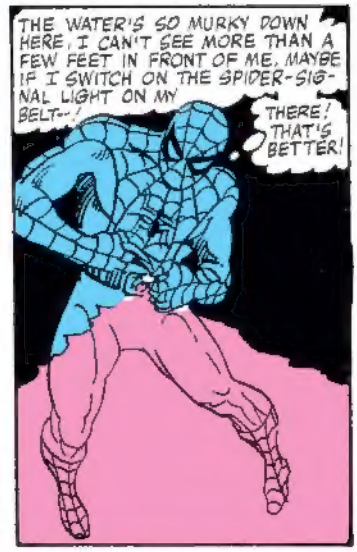
THAT GUY IN THE WEBBED SUIT IS LIKE A JUMPING JACK-- I CAN'T GET A BEAD ON HIM!
IDIOT! DON'T WASTE YOUR TIME ON SPIDER-MAN! GET THE SMUGGLER FIRST! GET HIM!
ELI RUMSFORD IS ONE OF EUROPE'S MOST SKILLED HITMEN. GIVEN A NORMAL TARGET--

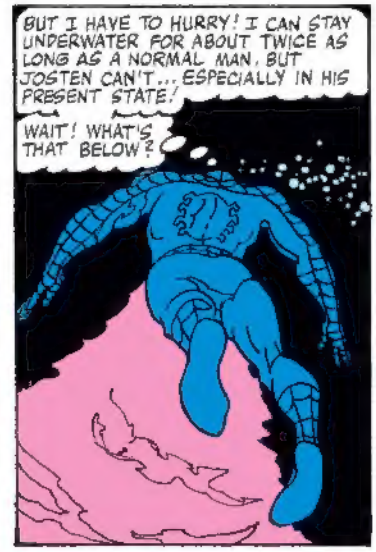

--HE RARELY MISSES!
BLAM


THE BODIES HIT THE SURFACE OF THE WATER...ONE IN A GRACEFUL DIVE...THE OTHER DROPPING LIKE A WOUNDED GULL.

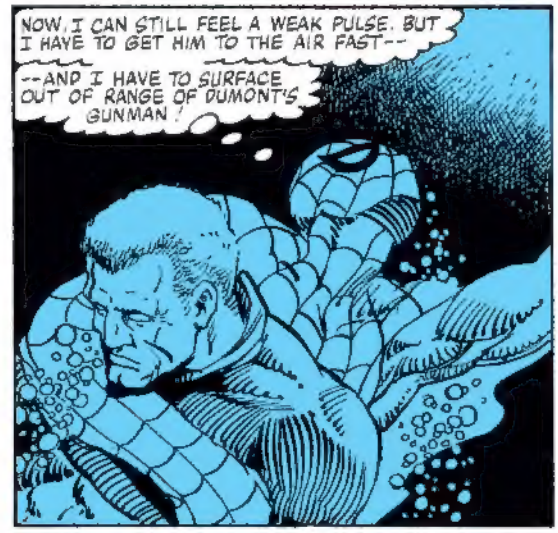

ONLY ONE SURFACES!
OKAY, YOU GOT THE IMPORTANT ONE--NOW TRY FOR THE OTHER!
THEY... SHOT JOSTEN? OH, NO!

I HAVE TO FIND HIM! IF I HADN'T INTERFERED, HE WOULDN'T BE IN THIS FIX!


THE WATER'S SO MURKY DOWN HERE, I CAN'T SEE MORE THAN A FEW FEET IN FRONT OF ME. MAYBE IF I SWITCH ON THE SPIDER-SIGNAL LIGHT ON MY BELT--!
THERE! THAT'S BETTER!

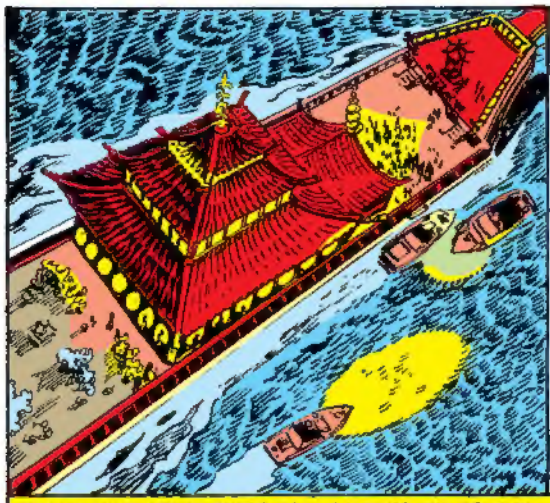

BUT I HAVE TO HURRY! I CAN STAY UNDERWATER FOR ABOUT TWICE AS LONG AS A NORMAL MAN, BUT JOSTEN CAN'T... ESPECIALLY IN HIS PRESENT STATE!
WAIT! WHAT'S THAT BELOW?

HALLELUJAH, IT'S HIM! BUT HE'S NOT MOVING! AM I TOO LATE?

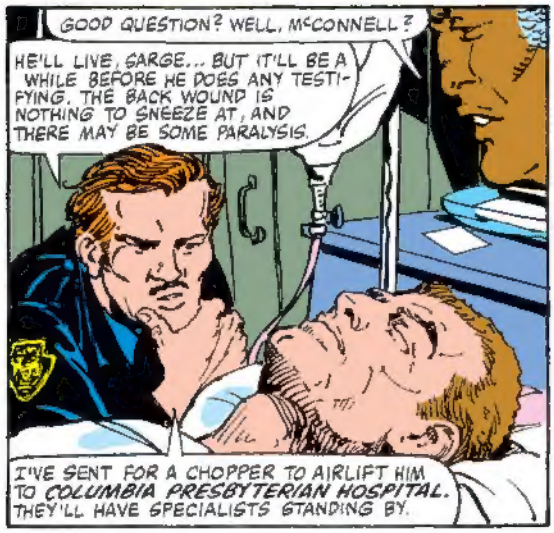

NOW, I CAN STILL FEEL A WEAK PULSE. BUT I HAVE TO GET HIM TO THE AIR FAST--
--AND I HAVE TO SURFACE OUT OF RANGE OF DUMONT'S GUNMAN!

JOSTEN! JOSTEN, CAN YOU HEAR ME?
SPIDER-MAN! OVER HERE!
WHAT--?

SNIDER! MAN, AM I GLAD TO SEE YOU! I FOUND YOUR PRIZE WITNESS-- BUT HE'S PRETTY BADLY HURT!
'SALL RIGHT. WE HAVE A PARA-MEDIC ABOARD!


STRONG ARMS ASSIST SPIDER-MAN IN LIFTING THE GROGGY SMUGGLER ABOARD THE POLICE BOAT, AND THEN...

IT'S NOT THAT I'M UNGRATEFUL, SNIDER -- BUT HOW THE DEVIL DID YOU KNOW WHERE TO LOOK FOR ME ?
WE WEREN'T LOOKING FOR YOU... WE WERE LOOKING FOR JOSTEN.
AS TO HOW... WE TRACED THE TIRE TRACKS OF A STOLEN CAR, QUESTIONED A FEW WITNESSES, AND CHECKED WITH SOME INFORMERS. YOU KNOW... DETECTIVE WORK!
TOUCHE! BUT HOW'S JOSTEN ?


GOOD QUESTION? WELL, McCONNELL ?
HE'LL LIVE, SARGE... BUT IT'LL BE A WHILE BEFORE HE DOES ANY TESTIFYING. THE BACK WOUND IS NOTHING TO SNEEZE AT, AND THERE MAY BE SOME PARALYSIS.
I'VE SENT FOR A CHOPPER TO AIRLIFT HIM TO COLUMBIA PRESBYTERIAN HOSPITAL. THEY'LL HAVE SPECIALISTS STANDING BY.

BUT, AS THE POLICE BOARD THE FLOATING RESTAURANT...
OFFICER, I DEMAND YOU ARREST THAT MASKED MENACE IMMEDIATELY!
WHAT ?
ARREST ME? DUMONT, YOU HAVE TO BE KIDDING!

AM I ? I REPRESENT AN INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS CONSORTIUM WHICH OWNS THIS ESTABLISHMENT, AND I CHARGE THAT SPIDER-MAN TRIED TO WRECK THIS SHIP AND ENDANGER ITS PATRONS.
I CAN SUBSTANTIATE THAT CHARGE. THIS MAN ATTACKED MY ACTORS AND MYSELF.
YOU JOY-BOYS DON'T HONESTLY EXPECT THE POLICE TO BUY THAT, DO YOU?

UH, SARGE ? I'VE BEEN QUESTIONING THE CUSTOMERS, AND THEIR STORIES SEEM TO BACK UP THE CHARGES.
THAT'S RIGHT, OFFICER--IT WAS TERRIFYING!
I DO NOT BELIEVE THIS!
YOU SEE, SERGEANT ?
WELL, WE'LL HAVE TO GET STATEMENTS...

SEE HERE, SIR, WE'VE ALREADY GIVEN OUR STATEMENTS--AND WE DEMAND THAT YOU LET US GO AT ONCE!
YES.
I'M A LAWYER, SERGEANT--AND I'M TELLING YOU THAT YOU HAVE NO LEGAL RIGHT TO DETAIN THESE PEOPLE!
TELL ME THIS ISN'T HAPPENING, SNIDER--TELL ME I'M HAVING A BAD DREAM.
I...WISH I COULD, SPIDER-MAN--

--BUT IT'S YOUR WORD AGAINST THAT OF A BOAT-LOAD OF PEOPLE! WITHOUT MORE CAUSE FOR SUSPICION, WE CAN'T REALLY SEARCH THE PLACE. I'M AFRAID I MAY HAVE TO TAKE YOU IN.
I HOPE YOU'RE NOT THINKING OF GIVING ME A HARD TIME.
HMM... I WOULDN'T THINK OF IT, SNIDER.

WHAT?! NO!
BUT, YOU KNOW, THERE IS ONE THING THAT BOTHERS ME... WHEN THE SMUGGLER AND I BROKE UP THIS PARTY, DINNER WAS JUST BEING SERVED!
IT SEEMS TO ME THAT SOME OF THESE FOLKS GOT THEIR DOGGIE BAGS AWFULLY SOON!

WHY, WHAT HAVE WE HERE? THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE LEFTOVERS TO ME. LOOKS LIKE DRUGS.
YEAH, NOW WE HAVE GROUNDS FOR A SEARCH!
I DON'T PRETEND TO KNOW THE LAW, BUT I'LL BET THAT THERE'S A LOT MORE "DOGGIE BAGS" BELOW THAT JUST MIGHT BE THE CAUSE OF A FEW ARRESTS!

AND SO, SOME TIME LATER...
YOU'RE MAKING A BIG MISTAKE! I KNOW NOTHING OF THOSE DRUGS! I'LL HAVE YOUR BADGES! I'LL--!
OK... SHUT UP!
WELL, IT'S BEEN A LONG NIGHT, BUT I THINK EVERYTHING TURNED OUT FOR THE BEST!

HEY! WHAT'RE YOU DOING?
SOME OF THOSE DOGGIE BAGS WERE FOR REAL, SNIDER... AND I HAVEN'T EATEN ALL NIGHT!
CARE FOR SOME BEEF TERIYAKI?
ALL RIGHT, SO WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU READ A STORY WHERE THE HERO FINISHED OFF AN ADVENTURE AND A GOOD MEAL AT THE SAME TIME? BUT DON'T GET THE IDEA THAT EVERYTHING'S GOING TO BE COMING UP ROSES FOR THE OL' WALL CRAWLER! NEXT ISSUE, HE HAS TO FACE...
NITRO, THE EXPLODING MAN!